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Inside

Dynamite Brochures 2

State News 3

Legislative Day 4

Notable State Documents 5

MoreDISCUS 7

Internet Use 8

DBPH 10

News for South Carolina Libraries
can now be viewed online from the
State Library's web site: [http://
www.state.sc.us/scsl/](http://www.state.sc.us/scsl/)

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News

For South Carolina
Libraries

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RCPL: One of the Best

Richland County Public Library (RCPL) ranks as one of the top public libraries in the country according to the January issue of **American Libraries**, the official publication of the American Library Association.

RCPL was named in the category of libraries serving populations greater than 100,000. While the magazine article, "Go Ahead, Name Them, American's Best Public Libraries," listed only 20 library systems, the ranking website shows RCPL ranks in the 95th percentile and 21st out of 404 urban public libraries in the nation.



Photography by Jay Browne

With 289,000 residents in Richland and nine branches throughout Richland County, the library ranks as the top large library system in the Southeast in the first such ranking.

David Warren, library director, said, "I was thrilled to discover that we came out so high in this first-time ranking. It is gratifying to know that the Richland County Public Library has attained this notable level of recognition."

John Baker, chairman of the RCPL board of trustees, said the honor is a tribute to the staff, current board, Friends group and county council.

"The staff augments the collection beautifully. They put it to the best use it could achieve. They help every individual who comes in the door," said Nonie Price, former chairwoman of the library's board of directors and former president of the Friends group.

Library systems were judged on several criteria including volumes per capita and visits per capita. RCPL offers 1 million books, nearly 90,000 microfilms, more than 3,000 periodicals and 54 newspapers. The library's main branch on Assembly Street averages 3,000 to 4,000 visitors daily, with 2,000 during the four hours it is open on Sunday.

From the Director ■■■ James B. Johnson Jr.

The General Assembly is now debating Governor Jim Hodges' First Steps to School Readiness program. At this writing, the House of Representatives has appropriated \$10 million for this program which is designed to help communities mobilize to address their most pressing early childhood needs. First Steps goal is to create local partnerships to develop and provide comprehensive, high quality early childhood education and development services tailored to meet locally identified needs of young children and their families. Public libraries are currently

providing many programs and services which would complement any First Steps initiatives. Children's programs enable children at an early age experience the joys to be found in reading. Programs conducted with day care centers and Head Start groups improve educational offerings of child care providers, a key component of First Steps. Public libraries also offer parent education programs.

At the suggestion of the State Library, Governor Hodges has appointed Sarah McMaster, director of the Fairfield County Library, to

the First Steps Board. She will be able to suggest ways libraries can assist in reaching the goals set out for First Steps. I am sure she would welcome your suggestions.



First Steps offers public libraries a wonderful opportunity to develop and expand programs for children—the next generation of library supporters. Let's do all we can to support it!

Dynamite Brochures

The following tips for creating dynamite brochures were in the Winter 1999 issue of **The Library Imagination Paper**!

- A brochure is an introduction. Be brief and concise. Cover the main points.
- Have a point of visual interest.
- Always use positive language in the copy.
- The reader's favorite word is you. Include readers in the copy by making them a part of it.
- Organize your thoughts and graphics into an easily followed format.
- Break text up with art, borders and photos.
- Your library is full of good brochure ideas. Be creative.
- Keep up with current trends in art, copy and design.
- Design your brochure in a size and configuration that is easy to handle and keep.
- Have fun with the material. After all, you are promoting a fun, informative place.

News from Around the State

Beaufort County Library

An anonymous donor gave \$450,000 to the Beaufort County Library. The gift is to be used in three areas of the library: \$150,000 to purchase furniture, books and collectibles for the South Carolina Room of the new Hilton Head Island Library; \$100,000 to purchase books and collectibles for the South Carolina Room of the Beaufort Library and \$200,000 to create a library endowment.

Charleston County Library

Award-winning acoustic blues guitarist Keith B. Brown performed in the **Main Library** auditorium during the Lowcountry Blues Bash.

Colleton County Library

The **SC Humanities Council** awarded a grant to Colleton County Library to gather oral histories from diverse segments of its population. The interviews will be transcribed and made available for circulation.

Francis Marion University

Francis Marion University's **Rogers Library** recently hosted the Henry Timrod Elementary School's accelerated reader award winner, Benjamin Hankinson.

Georgetown County Library

The SC Humanities Council awarded a grant to the **Georgetown County Library** to host 11 scholars as part of their 200th anniversary. The scholars will speak on different periods of history from the past 200 years of Southern history.

Greenville County Library

Greenville County Library is one of 40 libraries nationwide selected to participate in the "National Connections" reading and discussion series for adult new readers.

Karen M. Allen, of Greenville County, is the 1999 recipient of the ALSC/Book Wholesalers Inc. Reading Program Grant of \$3000. The grant recipient focuses

their summer reading club on a theme that looks into the past. Throughout the summer, library programs featuring professional storytellers will be held throughout the county in locations of historical significance. These sites will be determined in cooperation with the Greenville County Historical Society. Children's librarians will be on hand to coordinate the programs, distribute booklists of related materials, and highlight all the activities for summer reading.

SC State Library

Chandra Pierce joined the State Library as Reference Librarian. Pierce, a graduate of Converse College, received her MLS from the University of South Carolina. She was recently employed by the Library at Milliken and Company and has also worked for Advanced Information Consultants in Charlotte, NC.

University of South Carolina

Thomas Cooper Library, on the campus of the University of South Carolina in Columbia, received a gift of \$1 million from retired cardiologist, Dr. C. Warren Irvin Jr. and his wife, Josephine Brown Irvin. The current gift marks the Irvin's second major contribution to Thomas Cooper Library. In 1997, they donated an extensive collection of Charles Darwin books and research materials called the Warren Irvin Jr. Collection of Darwin and Darwin Related Books.

The Thomas Cooper Society Student Book Collecting Awards for 1999 were presented to **Park Bucker** and **Sean Busick**, graduate students in the USC English and history departments respectively. Bucker's entry is "I Stay at Home with a Book: A Collection of Dorothy Parker." Busick's collection is "A Fred Chappell Collection and Bibliography."

Brette Barclay is the new Reference Librarian at Thomas Cooper Library.

Alma Creighton is Systems Liaison Librarian for the University of South Carolina libraries in Columbia.

March 10, 1999

Library Legislative Day



Paula Paul, director, Orangeburg County Library; Valeria Staley, board member and Rep. Gilda Cobb Hunter



Rep. Jackie Hayes, Hartsville Library Director Liz Watford and Rep. Denny Neilson



Sen. Wes Hayes, Phyllis Davis, York County Library and David Lyon, director, York County Library



Beaufort Library Trustee J.F. Wilson and Rep. Edie Rogers

1998 Notable State Government Publications Announced

In observance of Freedom of Information Day March 16, the South Carolina State Library announces the selection of the 10 most notable South Carolina state government publications of 1998.

Included in these publications is information on herb selection, school violence prevention programs. Confederate monuments, code of laws, foundations and much more. These publications were selected because they represent the wide-ranging function of government and the every-day usefulness of government information.

The SC State Library's **South Carolina Foundation Directory** is one of the publications selected. Edited by Karen McMullen and Mary Bull, the directory is the most comprehensive resource on foundations in South Carolina. Other publications selected are **Herb Selection, Culture and Use**, Clemson University; **Promising School Violence Prevention Programs**, State



Karen McMullen, Reference Librarian, receives a notable state documents award from Thomas Shepley, Government Information Technologies Librarian, and Jim Johnson, SC State Library Director (right).

Attorney General's office; **A Guide to Confederate Monuments in South Carolina** and **South Carolina's African American Confederate Pensioners**, SC Department of Archives and History; **SC Code of Laws**, Legislative Council; **South Carolina Nature Viewing Guide**, SC Department of Natural Resources; **Adjutant General's Annual Report**; **SC Performance Audits** and **The Citizen's Guide to the Charleston Harbor Project**, SC Department of Health and

Environmental Control.

These publications are part of the State Documents Depository System coordinated by the SC State Library. Participating libraries, in addition to the State Library, include Clemson University, Coastal Carolina University, College of Charleston, Francis Marion University, Greenville County Library, Lander University, South Carolina State University, Spartanburg County Library, USC-Aiken, USC – Beaufort and Winthrop University.

Patchwork Tales May 6-7



The fourth annual Patchwork Tales Storytelling Festival will be held May 6 and 7 in Rock Hill. Designed to increase the visibility of the York County Library, the Patchwork Tales Storytelling Festival also promotes family literacy.

This year's festival includes morning storytelling concerts at Winthrop University for area second graders, storytelling in the elementary schools, a Thursday afternoon storytelling workshop for adults at Baxter Hood Center and a Friday evening Community Concert at St. John's United Methodist Church.

For more information please see the York County Library website www.yclibrary.org or contact Diane Williams at 803-324-7624 or email dianew@lyon.york.lib.sc.us.

Bill Harley, nationally recognized family entertainer, musician and storyteller, will be featured at the festival along with one of America's most celebrated storytellers, Connie Regan-Blake. Professional storyteller and emcee, Chuck Larkin, will host the community concert.

Spring Story Festivals

Florence County Library, all Florence county school districts and Francis Marion University co-sponsored "A Festival of Stories" March 11. Third grade classes from across the county met at the university campus where groups of children moved around buildings on campus to experience stories through mime, marionettes and storytelling.

For the finale, over 1700 children gathered to hear the Storycrafters from New York State weave a spell through creative storytelling that incorporated drums and other sound effects. This was the first year of what the sponsors hope will be an annual event.

The guest speaker at A(ugusta) Baker's Dozen April 23 was Morton Schindel, founder of Weston Woods Studios. Weston Woods was a pioneer in turning children's books into films that remained faithful to the story. Schindel's evening lecture followed the annual storytelling for fourth graders at the Robert Mills house and a panel of South Carolina children's authors who talked about their writing with children.



This year Greenville County Library's Great Book Festival May 11 and 12 will give children in grades three and four the opportunity to hear author and illustrator, Andrew Glass talk about how he creates his picture books.

Jane Connor, children's services consultant; Email: janec@leo.scsli.state.sc.us. Telephone: (803) 734-8666.

DISCUS Adds More Resources

DISCUS – South Carolina’s Virtual Library achieved another milestone when Grolier Online encyclopedias and SIRS topical databases were added to the project in February. These databases were selected for the project based on librarian feedback from trials conducted during fall 1998.

With the seven InfoTrac periodical databases already provided by DISCUS, South Carolinians now have access to a wealth of resources via their schools, colleges and public libraries.

All three of Grolier’s encyclopedias are now available to DISCUS users of all ages— New Book of Knowledge Online, Grolier Multimedia Encyclopedia Online and Encyclopedia Americana. These encyclopedias contain over 90,000 articles and close to 150,000 carefully selected web links. DISCUS schools, colleges and public libraries have also gained access to SIRS KnowledgeSource, which combines access to SIRS Researcher, SIRS Renaissance and SIRS Government Reporter, as well as to SIRS Discoverer, which targets younger users. The SIRS suite contains

thousands of full-text articles selected from over 4000 magazines, newspapers and other sources.

DISCUS has been successfully expanded to include South Carolina’s schools. As one school media specialist commented, “I’m really excited about how these technology resources are transforming our function and role as media specialists.” School media specialists are receiving training on the InfoTrac databases to which they gained access in the fall. All media specialists and librarians will receive invitations to SIRS database training and Grolier database demonstrations. This training will continue through fall of 1999.

For more information about DISCUS contact: Mary Bull, DISCUS project director; (803) 734-8666; (mary@leo.scsl.state.sc.us).



South Carolina’s Virtual Library

New Federal Depository Guidelines for Internet Use

In the past two years, most of the libraries in South Carolina have connected to the Internet. A major issue for libraries is the creation of their Internet use policy. The Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) issued guidelines for Internet use policies effective January 15, 1999 for depository libraries. Although non-depository libraries are not obligated to follow FDLP guidelines, all libraries in South Carolina should attempt to address the spirit of public access to government information in their Internet use policies.

All libraries have free access to the vast resources offered by the United States Government Printing Office (GPO) via the web, including the Federal Register, Code of Federal Regulations, Commerce Business Daily (CBDNet) and many Congressional information products. (www.access.gpo.gov)

Highlights of FDLP Internet Use Policy Guidelines:

- All depository libraries must offer the general public free access to online Federal Government information provided through the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP).
- Depository libraries should have a written access policy that addresses these issues regarding obtaining FDLP information on the Internet.
- Information products in the FDLP Electronic Collection must be available to any library user free of fees or other restrictions such as age or

residency status and may be provided at one or more workstations.

- The number of workstations depends on the size of the depository operation and must be sufficient to serve the depository's patrons efficiently and effectively. Time limits and the use of sign-up sheets are acceptable.
- Since the use of filtering software may restrict access to official FDLP information, for example in the health or biological sciences fields, depository libraries must allow users the option to use workstations without filtering software or to turn off the filter while searching FDLP information.
- Security measures must be consistent with FDLP guidelines and requirements.

Further guidance, particularly concerning service support issues, is found in "Depository Library Public Service Guidelines for Government Information in Electronic Formats," Administrative Notes, v. 19, no. 11 (9/15/98), pp. 5-6, and in the 1998 "Recommended Specifications for Public Access Work Stations in Federal Depository Libraries," in Administrative Notes, v. 19, no. 8 (6/15/98), pp. 3-8 [URL for CURRENT Administrative Notes, with link to Back Issues: www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/dpos/adnotes.html. Also available at: http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/dpos/iupolicy.html

Tom Shepley (thomas@leo.scsl.state.sc.us)



Our Heritage of Library Service

1948

This model was in use by the following counties:

Aiken
Anderson
Colleton
Lancaster
Richland
Spartanburg

Model on order for:

Kershaw
Orangeburg



Pilot Model of Bookmobile for South Carolina

Built by: Rock Hill body Works, Rock Hill, South Carolina

Cab & Chasis: Hampton Motor Company, Columbia, South Carolina

Specifications: 3/4 Ton Dodge; All Steel Construction; Color - Medium Green; Book Capacity 1800.

Cost: \$2,518.55

Project of South Carolina State Library Board

Back to the Basics...



Who is eligible to use the services of the SC State Library, Department for the Blind and Physically Handicapped? Any South Carolinian unable to read or use standard printed materials as a result of temporary or permanent visual or physical limitations. Qualifying conditions are blindness, visual impairment, reading disability and physical impairment.

A person's physical impairment must render him unable to hold a book or turn pages or render him able to do so only with extreme difficulty. Physical conditions such as paralysis, missing arms or hands, lack of muscle coordination or prolonged weakness meet this requirement.

An individual's reading disability must have a physical basis or he is not eligible. This means the cause lies within the central nervous system. Factors such as educational or intellectual deficiencies cannot be taken into consideration. By federal regulation, the signature of a doctor of medicine or osteopathy is required on an application

submitted by a person whose qualifying condition is a reading disability.

Blindness or loss of vision is a qualifying condition that is generally understood by all. Yet, the term blindness is defined in a variety of ways. Some define it as no light perception (a person can perceive only light or its absence). Others reserve the term for those with no usable sight while the term visually impaired refers to those with some usable vision, regardless of how little. Legal blindness (visual acuity of the better eye, with correction, is 20/200 or less) is the term used to determine eligibility for many federal and state programs. The 20/200 designation is a measurement of acuity, how much detail one sees at a specific distance, and the visual field (the area of vision).

The current federal regulation for the talking-book program, Public Law 89-522, as amended October 2, 1981, states that materials will be loaned to readers "certified by competent authority as unable to read normal printed material as a



result of physical limitations, under regulations prescribed by the Librarian of Congress for this service." For most eligible people (except those with a reading disability) served by this program, competent authority includes professionals in various fields related to health care, education or rehabilitation.

To fulfill statutory obligations and assure continuity of the program, the South Carolina State Library, Department for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, conforms, at all times, with the regulations governing the nationwide talking-book program.

Caroliniana

Babits, Lawrence E. **A devil of a whipping: the Battle of Cowpens.** University of North Carolina Press, 1998. 231p. \$34.95.

Bass, Jack. **Ol' Strom: an unauthorized biography of Strom Thurmond.** Longstreet Press, 1998. 359p. \$24.00.

Bryan, John M. **Creating the South Carolina State House.** University of South Carolina Press, 1999. 203p. \$39.95.

Cawley, Sherry J. **Around Walterboro, South Carolina.** Arcadia Publishing, 1998. 125p. \$16.99.

Clark, John F. **Hiking South Carolina.** Falcon, 1998. 304p. \$14.95.

Corbin, Mike. **Family trees: the peach culture of the Piedmont.** Hub City Writers Project (P. O. Box 8421, Spartanburg, SC 29305), 1998. 148p. \$20.00.

Designs against Charleston: the trial record of the Denmark Vesey Slave Conspiracy of 1822. Edited by Edward A. Pearson. University of North Carolina Press, 1999. 387p. \$49.95.

Jackson, Frances Herman. **A silence after trumpets: the story of Sarah Buchanan Preston.** Reprint Company, 1998. 207p. \$16.95. (fiction)

Jordan, Laylon Wayne. **A place called St. John's: the story of John's, Edisto, Wadmalaw, Kiawah, and Seabrook Islands of South Carolina.** Reprint Company, 1998. 497p. \$35.00.

Railroads and sawmills: Varnville, S. C., 1872-1997: the making of a Low Country town in the new South. Varnville Community Council (P. O. Box 707, Varnville, SC 29944), 1998. 442p. \$25.00.

South Carolina Confederate soldiers, 1861-1865. 2 volumes. Broadfoot Publishing Company, 1998. \$200.00.

Woody, Howard. **South Carolina Postcards. Volume II: Southern Carolina, Beaufort to Barnwell.** Arcadia Publishing, 1998. \$18.99.

Zepke, Terrance. **Lighthouses of the Carolinas: a short history and guide.** Pineapple Press, 1998. 175p. \$12.95.

South Carolina State Library Services

- Library Planning and Development
- Interlibrary Cooperation
- Services for State Government and State Agencies
- Consultant Assistance for Public and Institutional Libraries
- Services for the Blind and Handicapped
- South Carolina Library Network
- Reference and Information Services
- Interlibrary Loan Services
- Audiovisual Services
- Grants-in-Aid
- Continuing Education
- Technical Assistance for Library Construction
- State and Federal Documents
- Statistical Information
- Grants Research Collection
- ERIC Collection
- Computerized Databases
- Public Information Program
- Publications

Calendar

September

Library Card Sign-Up Month

September 25-October 2

Banned Books Week

October 17-23

Teen Read Week

November 15-21

Children's Book Week

December 1-4

South Carolina Library Association
Annual Conference
Hilton Head, SC

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News

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